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# DODD DECRIES VIET PEACE PARLEY IDEA

Says Weariness With  
Cold War Causes A  
'New Isolationism'

By PETER J. KUMPA

(Washington Bureau of The Sun)

Washington, Feb. 23 — Senator Dodd (D., Conn.) today denounced proposals for a negotiated settlement in Vietnam as a product of "the new isolationism" arising from growing national weariness with the cold war.

Calling for a reaffirmation of principle to never yield to force, Dodd warned that any abandonment of South Vietnam now by the United States might "result in the early disintegration of all of our alliances and the total eclipse of America as a great power."

## Leads Counterattack

The Connecticut Democrat, a close personal friend of President Johnson, led a strong counterattack by Administration supporters in both houses today against any negotiations with the Communists on Southeast Asia.

Dodd spent nearly three hours on the Senate floor making a detailed examination and rebuttal of points raised by such leading opponents of negotiation as Senators Church (D., Idaho), McGovern (D., S.D.) and Morse (D., Ore.).

He insisted that though the war has not been going well recently, it could still be won without escalation.

The Connecticut senator also suggested better liaison with Vietnamese leaders, intensification of political warfare against the Communists, a modification of the S.E.A.T.O. treaty to encourage more collective action by pro-Western Asian allies and the carrying of the guerrilla war to the north.

## Gallagher Sees Unrest

On the House side, Representative Zablocki (D., Wis.), a key member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said the United States had made a commitment to the South Vietnamese people—confirmed by three Presidents—that could not be negotiated away. "Our choice has already been made. As unpleasant as the prospect may be we must stand firm," Zablocki told the House.

Representative Gallagher (D., N.J.) complained that the Senate speeches urging negotiation had been magnified many times in Asia causing "great unrest" there.

Gallagher announced that he would speak for an hour on the Vietnam crisis tomorrow afternoon and invited other House members to join in the discussion.

Dodd spoke to a largely empty chamber but to galleries crowded with tourists and school children flooding the Capitol during the Washington's birthday holiday.

Senator Ellender (D., La.) interrupted once to compare South Vietnam to Korea. He said if a stable government was not soon formed in Saigon, it would be worse than Korea.

Dodd blamed the instability in South Vietnam on the assassination of the late President Ngo Dinh Diem. He suggested that there should be an investigation of the killing to see if any American official had a part in that coup.

At the end of his major address, Dodd was congratulated by Senators Douglas (D., Ill.), Dominick (R., Col.), Mundt (R., S.D.), Tower (R., Texas), Javits (R., N.Y.), Harris (D., Okla.), Monroney (D., Okla.) and Lausche (D., Ohio).

Douglas said that those who doubt there is any analogy between Nazi aggression in the 1930's and Communist conquests in the 1960's are only deluding themselves.

When Javits suggested that the United States not close the door to negotiation of the "political future of South Vietnam," Dodd said he did not see what there was to negotiate.

## It's Been Violated

"We have an agreement. It's been violated," He said. "I don't like to negotiate the breach of a covenant."

In praising Dodd, Monroney expressed surprise that "so many good men in the Senate" were "taken in" by the "misrepresentations" of the Communists.

It was these "misrepresentations" that Dodd tackled.

He said there was conclusive proof that the war was not a civil war.

Dodd pointed to the third Communist party congress in Hanoi in 1960 which decided "to liberate South Vietnam from the ruling yoke of the United States imperialists" and "official" and "reli-

ing that the government forces had lost their will to fight was placed by Dodd on the American press for emphasis on defeats and disasters rather than on victories.

## Denies BUDDHIST Persecution

The Senator added that this may spring from the traditional attitude of the American newspaperman "to mercilessly expose every weakness in his city government, in his state government, in his national government."

Dodd called alleged Buddhist persecution "a myth" blown out of "a gigantic propaganda hoax" perpetrated upon the world.

He said testimony taken by im-

partial United Nations investigators but never formally reported showed Buddhist persecution was "either non-existent or vastly exaggerated."

The Connecticut Democrat thought it was a fallacy to compare our position to the French. France, he said, was a colonial power fighting to keep control while the United States was helping people in South Vietnam to defend their freedom.

## Many Changed Sides

The proof of the difference lay, he said, in the fact that hundreds of thousands who fought with Ho Chi Minh against the French were now fighting the Communists.

Dodd opened his 30-page presentation with an analysis of what he described as "the new isolationism." He said its political base was left-of-center. It reflected a long-simmering indignation over the fact that American generosity and sacrifice has been met not only with indifference and ingratitude but even with hostility and contempt.

Its scare-word is "escalation" and its cure-all is "neutralization," said Dodd.

Its prophets, he stated, included members of Congress, influential members of the press and leading academicians.

## Ask Aid, CIA Cuts

Its basic premise was that the United States was "overextended" and "overcommitted" and its corollaries were withdrawal from Vietnam, a pullout from the Con and 3,300 missing or captured against 4,000 Communists.

Even last year when the war turned against the Government, the Vietnamese lost 7,000 as compared to 17,000 Viet Cong and had that the country was overextended, 5,000 captured against 4,200 Communists.

Dodd rejected the argument that the country was overextended, 5,000 captured against 4,200 Communists.

Part of the blame for the feel-

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"We are not even straining ourselves," he said. "We are actually pursuing today a policy not only of both guns and butter, but of less guns and more butter."

"Our power is at its peak and we have the capacity to increase it vastly," Dodd argued. "It is our spirit, apparently that needs shoring up."

**Calls Timing Poor**

Dodd derided the possibility of negotiation now.

He said it was akin to asking Churchill to negotiate with the Germans at the time of Dunkirk or asking President Truman to negotiate at the time of the Pusan perimeter in Korea.

The Senator predicted that in case of an American defeat in Vietnam the consequences would be "so catastrophic, we simply cannot permit ourselves to think about it."

It would mean "bloodletting on a genocidal scale" for the 1,000,000 refugees from North Vietnam and those other millions who had fought against the Communists.

"I shudder to think about it," Dodd said.

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